रेल मंत्री (श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) यह कहना सही नहीं है कि नई दिल्ली-भोपाल मार्ग, जिस पर शताब्दी एक्सप्रेस चलती है, पर संरक्षा नियमों का उल्लंघन होता है । इस मार्ग के लिए निर्धारित गिट्टी की गहराई सहित न्यूनतम रेलपथ मानकों की व्यवस्था की गई है । संरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए रेलपथ अभिलेखी यानों, दोलनलेखी यानों और पराश्रव्य संसूचकों द्वारा रेलपथ की गहन निगरानी की जा रही है । अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों द्वारा निरंतर निरीक्षण सुनिश्चित किए जा रहे है । ऐसी निगरानी के आधार पर पर्याप्त अनुरक्षण की व्यवस्था की जाती है जिससे कि न केवल संरक्षा की स्थिति में रेलपथ का अनुरक्षण किया जाता बल्कि यात्रियों को आरामदायक यात्रा की भी व्यवस्था की जाती है ।

Low consumption of fertilisers

1135. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether consumption of fertilizers per hectare in the country is very low as compared to the other countries; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) The overall consumption of fertiliser in the country is provisionally estimated to be 63.86 Kg./ha. during 1988-89. The per hectare consumption is higher than in Australia, Canada and some other countries, but lower than that of Japan, United Kingdom and certain other countries.

(b) The lower level of fertiliser consumption than some countries is because about 70 per cent of the gross cropped areas is un-irrigated and, therefore, less fertiliser is used by the farmers. Rainfed areas also exhibit lesser cultivation of fertiliser responsive high yielding varieties which in turn results in lower fertiliser consumption.

Abolition of post of General Manager, Govt. of India Press, Minto Road (New Delhi)

1136. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of General Manager was abolished in the Government of India Press, Minto Road, New Delhi some time in the Year, 1986;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is again some move to create the post of General Manager by down grading the post of Joint Director (Tech.) or to transfer the person holding the same post from the Government of India Press, Nasik;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the action being contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Inquiry into concealment of production capacity by Fertilizer plants

1137. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the multinational financing institutions have been inquiring into the alleged concealment of production capacities by the country's urea and ammonia plants;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the outcome thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHAND BHAI SHAH): (a) to (c) Government have not received any enquiry from the multinational financing institutions regarding alleged concealment of production capacities by the country's urea and ammonia plants. As such, the question of re-action of the Government to any such enquiry does not arise.

Increase in the prices of Vanaspati

1138. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the steep rise in the prices of Vanaspati and edible oils recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that the prices of Vanaspati have gone up by 70 per cent in the last Calender year and by 35 per cent during the last four months;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to bring down the prices?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The wholesale price increase of Vanaspati exhibited a rise of 37.6 per cent in the last calender year and 7.3 per cent during the last four months. The wholesale prices of Vanaspati during the last four months (month ending) are as under:

(Rs./15 kg. Tin).

End of month	Wholesale price of Vanaspati/Delhi
February, 1990 .	386
November, 1990 .	495
December, 1990 .	495
January, 1991 .	575
February, 1991 .	531

(d) Some of the steps taken by the Government to bring down the prices include granting of excise rebate on use of non-conventional oils in Vanaspati, reduction of stock limits of edible oilseeds, and oils by dealers/processors and manufacturers of edible oils, permitting blending of conventional edible oils with non-conventional oils etc. State Governments have also been asked to undertake strict actions against hoarders, black-marketeers in edible oilseeds and oils. Distribution of imported edible oils through Public Distribution System at reasonable price is continuing.

Delhi Urban Arts Commission

1139. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main objectives in setting up the Delhi Urban Arts Commission;

(b) whether any review of the functioning of the Delhi Urban Arts Commission has been made to know how far it has achieved the objectives for which it was set up;

(c) if so, what is the outcome thereof stating the inadequacies in its functioning identified; and

(d) the manner in which Government propose to move in the matter?